

FACT SHEET



Pools Prairie Superfund Site Neosho, Missouri

April 2001

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is asking for comments on a recommended action to clean up contaminated soil at the Components Test Area (CTA). The CTA is one of the contaminated areas of the Pools Prairie Superfund site in Neosho, Missouri.

The 42-acre CTA is located about 3 miles southeast of downtown Neosho at Camp Crowder.

BACKGROUND

The CTA was used to test components related to rocket and jet engines during the 1950s and 1960s.

EPA conducted sampling at the CTA and found the soil and ground water were contaminated, mainly with trichloroethene (TCE). Most of the contamination is at the former primary lagoon.

In 1998, Boeing North American, Inc. and Teledyne Industries, Inc. agreed to take actions at the CTA to reduce the spread of contamination and conduct a study, known as an engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA), to identify and evaluate actions that would address the contaminated soil. A ground water containment system was constructed in 1998 to reduce the spread of the contamination. The EE/CA was completed in March 2001.

EPA and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) suspect the CTA is one of several sources of trichloroethene contamination in the ground water at the Northeast Area of the Pools Prairie site. The Northeast Area includes areas along Highway HH and TT, south of Alternate 71 Highway, and extends along rural roads north and south of Alternate 71 to the intersection of Highways 71 and 60.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

EPA is asking for your comments on the cleanup action recommended for the Components Test Area. The comment period opens April 25, 2001 and closes May 25, 2001.

Comments can be submitted in writing (post-marked no later than May 25, 2001) to:

Diane Huffman
EPA Region 7
Office of External Programs
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Comments can also be e-mailed to
huffman.diane@epa.gov

THE RECOMMENDED ACTION

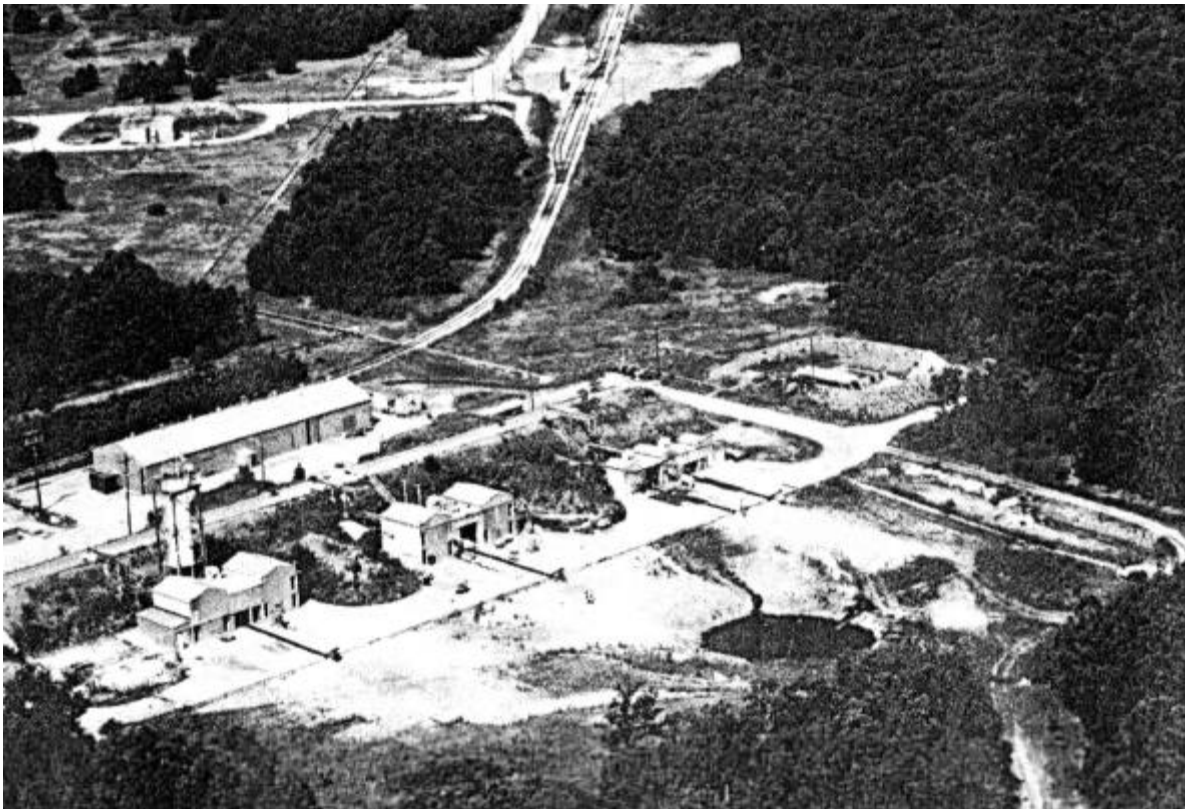
Based on information in the EE/CA, the following clean up actions are recommended for contaminated soil at the CTA:

For moist, clayey soil in the primary lagoon area, landfarming is the recommended cleanup action. Landfarming consists of excavating and spreading soil in layers 1 to 2 feet thick over a lined and bermed area. The berm contains the soil, and the liner prevents contaminants in the soil from moving to underlying soil. The soil is turned over frequently using a tractor with large disks. Turning the soil over exposes the contaminants to air, causing them to degrade and evaporate. Disking also exposes contaminants to sunlight, which destroys them. Rainwater collected in the bermed area is treated before it is discharged.

Soil vapor extraction is the recommended cleanup action for coarser soil in the primary lagoon area. Active soil vapor extraction consists of placing excavated soil in piles and blowing air through the soil piles. As in landfarming, the contaminants are released from the soil when they are exposed to the air.

The cleanup for the primary lagoon area is estimated to cost \$1.6 million and take one year.

Passive soil vapor extraction is recommended for less contaminated areas of the CTA. Passive soil vapor extraction consists of installing check valves on existing wells in the less contaminated areas. The air flow through the wells causes the contaminants to be released from the soil into the air. This activity is estimated to cost \$66,000 and take 3 to 5 years of operation before cleanup goals are met.



Components Test Area circa 1950s. The primary lagoon is visible in the foreground.

TO MAKE COMMENTS

EPA encourages community members to review and comment on the EE/CA for the CTA. Your comments will be most effective if you consider the following guidelines:

- Explain your views and tell us why you feel that way.
- Do you support or disagree with the recommendation? Be specific about which parts if you can.
- Can you provide examples or offer alternatives?

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The EE/CA is a part of the Administrative Record File. The Administrative Record File and the EE/CA are available for public review at the following locations:

Neosho Public Library
201 W. Spring
Neosho, Missouri

EPA Region 7, Docket Room
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions about this fact sheet, please contact:

Diane Huffman, Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of External Programs
EPA Region 7
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Kansas City, Kansas 66101
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